

# 192nd Wing holds redesignation ceremony

The Virginia Air National Guard's 192nd Fighter Wing redesignated as the 192nd Wing at a ceremony held Oct. 13, 2018, at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. With 12 distinct mission sets, including F-22 fighter jet operations and maintenance, intelligence and cyber operations along with multiple support units, the redesignation reflects the wing's continued growth and diversity.

The change officially went into effect Oct. 1 by order of the Secretary of the Air Force.

Brig. Gen. Marshall L. Kjellvik, Air Component commander of the VaANG, presided over the ceremony held outside the 192nd Wing headquarters building at Langley AFB.

"Names mean a lot, we're actually joining about a dozen other wings in the Air National Guard that are similarly designated for the same reasons," said Kjellvik. "As we seek to become the Air Force we need, we are adding more mission diversity, squadron by squadron. We are no longer a single operational squadron based wing. That's been true for several years, and the future holds only more of the same."

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/10/13/12118/>



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## Virginia National Guard News Headlines

### Governor signs order transferring Virginia Department of Military Affairs

Governor Ralph Northam signed Executive Order Twenty Sept. 26, 2018, transferring oversight of the Department of Military Affairs from the Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security to the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/09/26/12121/>

### Virginia National Guard provides high water transport capabilities in Danville

The Virginia National Guard deployed two medium tactical vehicles and four Soldiers to provide high water transport capabilities Oct. 12, 2018, in Danville, Virginia, after heavy rains caused widespread flooding in the area.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/10/12/12108/>

### Soldier Spotlight: Meet Sgt. Timothy Mahanes

Sgt. Timothy Mahanes grew up around heavy equipment so, when he decided to join the Virginia National Guard, enlisting as a 12N, a horizontal construction engineer, was a natural fit.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/10/10/12098/>

### Education summit to explore ways to better serve student veterans

Understanding the unique higher educational needs of student veterans will be the major topic of discussion at the Virginia Military & Veteran's Education Summit Nov. 8-9, 2018, at the Hampton Roads Convention Center in Hampton, Virginia.

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/10/16/12114/>

## Join the Virginia Army National Guard, Virginia Air National Guard or the Virginia Defense Force

For information about the joining the Virginia Army National Guard, the Virginia Air National Guard or Virginia Defense Force, visit the appropriate link below:

### Va. Army National Guard

<http://nationalguard.com/va>

### Va. Air National Guard

<https://www.192fw.ang.af.mil/join>

### Va. Defense Force

<http://vdf.virginia.gov/joinvdf/>

# ChalleNGe Class 50 candidates transition to cadets

The Virginia Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy transitioned 140 candidates to cadets during a ceremony Oct. 12, 2018, at Camp Pendleton State Military Reservation in Virginia Beach, Virginia.

"I want you all to think about what you've accomplished today," Mark Chicoine, director of the Virginia Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy, told the newly-minted cadets. "You've gone through acclimation, which is a real, tough environment. As soon as you're done reflecting, you need to focus. Now it's time for you all to perform."

Walt Mercer, chief operations officer for the Virginia Department of Military Affairs, was on hand to swear in and congratulate the new cadets. In addition to taking the cadet oath, the new cadets were introduced to all of the ChalleNGe staff members, cadre and academic instructors they will be encountering over the next five months.

Now that they have completed the physically taxing, two-week acclimation phase of the program, the cadets will focus on the academic portion of the program.

"You're now going to have the opportunity to work with our teachers and focus on your education goals. That's going to be a key building block to your success," Chicoine explained. "You're going to have an opportunity to work with our counselors. You're going to have an opportunity to work with our career counselors, thinking about your placement. They're going to try to take your dream and make it become a reality."

"Be happy of your achievement and now is when the work begins and we start to realize your goals," he said.

Commonwealth ChalleNGe is the Virginia component of the National Guard Youth ChalleNGe Program, a 17-and-a-half-month program designed to promote academics, attention



**Mark Chicoine, director of the Virginia Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy, recognizes one of the members of Class 50 as they transition from candidates to cadets during a ceremony Oct. 12, 2018, at Camp Pendleton State Military Reservation in Virginia Beach, Virginia.**

to detail, time management, and leadership, while promoting self-esteem, confidence and pride.

It includes a five-and-a-half-month residential program which focuses on preparing at-risk teens and high school dropouts for the General Educational Development test and future employment, military or higher education opportunities.

Ninety-one cadets, including the 5,000th in the history of the Virginia program, graduated during a ceremony for Class 49 Aug. 25, 2018, in Virginia Beach."

Read more: <http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/10/16/12123//>



**New cadets in Class 50 of the Virginia Commonwealth ChalleNGe Youth Academy celebrate during a ceremony Oct. 12, 2018, at Camp Pendleton State Military Reservation in Virginia Beach, Virginia.**

## MORE ON THE WEB

**Virginia Soldiers, Airmen race in 34th Army Ten Miler**

<http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/10/15/12110/>

**Tuition assistance deadline is November 1**

<http://vanguard.dodlive.mil/2018/10/03/12079/>

**Virginia Veteran and Family Support on Facebook:**

<https://www.facebook.com/VVFS2010/>

**Commonwealth ChalleNGe on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthChalleNGe/>

**192nd Wing on Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/192Wing/>



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